Congratulations 2013 Graduates!

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

AGgie Agenda

May 2013

The Department of Soil and Crop Sciences

Texas A&M University • Department of Soil & Crop Sciences • TAMU 2474, College Station, TX 77843 • Ph. 979.845.3041
This has been an exciting period with searches for several faculty positions across Soil and Crop Science and Ecosystem Science and Management. We are excited to have Dr. Clark Neely take the reins as State Wheat Extension Specialist. We are in the last steps of recruiting for an Extension Range position in Vernon/San Angelo, and have an active search for a combination Range Extension position with West Texas A&M and a Program Specialist in Stephenville. Dr. Fleischman is returning next week for a second interview for our Human Dimensions position in ESSM. We are actively recruiting and interviewing for the crop physiology position at Uvalde, Spatial Science position in ESSM, the Soils position at Overton, Extension Agronomist at Amarillo and are wrapping up the search for an Extension Turf Agronomist at College Station. We have initiated searches that take a large commitment from the faculty and staff and it is all appreciated. It represents a big portion of the future of the departments.

Graduation is tomorrow and we are excited for our many graduates. We wish them the very best as they take on the next phase of their life.

Thanks for all of the help in completing the review process in a timely fashion. With the two departments, I have been tightly booked to get all of mine completed and know that each of you are scrambling to finish as well. Taking the time to develop both a self-assessment document and plan for the future helps us to prioritize and be strategic as we move forward.

We have been developing opportunities with many international partners and have hosted groups from the Ukraine and Brazil, and will have a group in from Uzbekistan soon. These all take a large commitment from faculty and staff and the effort is greatly appreciated.

Congratulations to Geraldo Eugenio on his selection as Outstanding International Alumni by Texas A&M University. We are pleased that he was recognized and look forward to relationships he can help us develop with Brazilian scientists.

Congratulations to all of our recent award recipients (see stories throughout newsletter). As I continue the review process - there is much to be proud of in both departments and both are meeting the challenge of rapid change with limited budget.

We are initiating a national search for a Department Head for ESSM. This is an exciting leadership opportunity.
AUSTIN – The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service paid tribute to one of its staunchest industry supporters.

Texas Cotton Producers Inc. was presented with the Extension Partnership Award during its April 9 board of directors meeting and “Cotton Day at the Capitol” event in Austin.

“We confer the award in tribute to this organization’s long-time engagement with the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service,” said Dr. Doug Steele, AgriLife Extension director at College Station. “The support of the board members and their predecessors has significantly enhanced the outreach and impact of our educational programs, as well as the recognition of AgriLife Extension educators.”

Texas Cotton Producers Inc., headquartered in Austin, consists of nine certified cotton producer organizations that represent Texas growers on the state and national levels.

The organization has worked on a number of endeavors in concert with AgriLife Extension, Texas A&M AgriLife Research and others to promote the interests of Texas cotton growers. These efforts included formation of the statewide integrated pest management program, Texas Pest Management Association, Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Program and Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation.

In addition, Cotton Incorporated’s Texas state support committee relies on Texas Cotton Producers to oversee an average $1.25 million annually for research and education projects, including funds that support the efforts of AgriLife Extension specialists, county agents and integrated pest management agents, as well as AgriLife Extension’s Premier Cotton Educator Program, Master Marketer Program, and Texas Agricultural Lifetime Leadership program.

Young people across the state, likewise, benefit through support from Texas Cotton Producers, Inc. for 4-H projects, career days and college scholarships to Texas A&M and Texas Tech universities.

“Texas Cotton Producers Inc. has demonstrated an enduring commitment to Extension education, as well as the teaching and research of Texas A&M AgriLife,” Steele said. “We deeply appreciate their support.”


Since 1999, the AgriLife Extension Partnership Award has recognized vital alliances with agencies, organizations and others outside the Texas A&M University System whose support and collaboration has significantly enhanced the outreach and impact of Extension education for the people of Texas.
Congratulations May 2013 Graduates

UNDERGRADUATES

Garrett Foster
Jose Fuentes
Jonathan Gross
William Harris
Joseph Ingram
Michael Klepac
Landon Lindsay
Benjamin Martin
John McAree

Jacob Menn
Dustin Mikusko
Ryan McHugh
Timothy Pepper
Dillon Pfluger
Sadie Snider
Gregory Wilson
Stetson Wheat

GRADUATES

AGRONOMY
Todd Cogdill, PHD
Aaron Franks, MS
Clark Neely, PHD
Martha Thomas, PHD

PLANT BREEDING
Francis Beecher, PHD
Ostilio Portillo Rodriguez, PHD

SOIL SCIENCE
Emily Martin, PHD
Ieyasu Tokumoto, PHD

MOLECULAR & ENVIRONMENTAL PLANT SCIENCES
Yuan Chen, PHD
Archana Gawde, PHD

FOOD SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
Karla Siska, MS
Aggie From Brazil Named Outstanding International Alumnus

Dr. José Geraldo Eugênio de França, Class of 1990, has been named the recipient of Texas A&M University’s 2013 Outstanding International Alumnus Award.

Director of Research and Graduate Studies at the Technological Institute of Pernambuco, in Recife, Brazil, Eugênio, was presented the award Tuesday (April 9) by Texas A&M President R. Bowen Loftin and The Association of Former Students’ President and CEO Porter S. Garner III, along with David Heath, chair of the association’s board, and Vice Chancellor and Dean Mark A. Hussey of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences.

Eugênio leads a group working to upgrade the research and innovation capabilities of the local industry and the engineering teaching capacity of the universities and private schools. He is also committed to better understanding the bioenergy and biofuels industry in Brazil and in the USA.

“Texas A&M University was such a turning point in my life – it made me committed to this great university forever,” said Eugênio. “I would like to share this moment with my family, teachers, professors, colleagues and friends who I had the grace to meet during this amazing journey.”

“Dr. Eugênio adheres to the values that we seek to instill in our students, most notably loyalty, selfless service and leadership,” said President Loftin. “He has touched many lives in his country and created long lasting collaborations with Texas A&M University. We are very proud to have him represent Texas A&M in Brazil as our Outstanding International Alumnus.”

Born in the Federative Republic of Brazil, Eugênio earned his bachelor’s degree in agriculture from Federal Rural University in Brazil (1978), his master’s degree in plant breeding from Andhra Pradesh Agricultural University in India (1983), now known as the Acharya N. G. Ranga Agricultural University and International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics, and a Ph.D. in soil and crop science (1990) from Texas A&M.

“The Outstanding International Alumnus Award exists to formally acknowledge those unique former students who came to Texas A&M from across national and cultural boundaries and who now serve as loyal ambassadors of the worldwide Aggie Network,” said Garner. “Dr. Eugênio is truly deserving of this prestigious award as he embodies the Spirit of Aggieland and reflects it in ways that make us all proud.”

“Recognizing Dr. Eugênio for his exceptional work is a great pleasure for me,” said Vice Chancellor and Dean of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Mark A. Hussey. “As a land-grant university with a mission of promoting education, research, service and extension, we know that not only is his work an admirable example of that mission, it also represents our dedication to expand our reach worldwide.”

His 25-year career has taken Eugênio from northeastern region of Brazil, where he was a cereal or sorghum and vegetable breeder, to the halls of academia. He has moved from teaching biology at a local college in Vitoria de Santo Antao to serving as president of the Agriculture Research Institute to secretary of Agriculture in the State of Pernambuco in 1995, before moving on to service in the Ministry of Agriculture in 1996.

You may view the entire article at: http://tamutimes.tamu.edu/2013/04/10/aggie-from-brazil-named-outstanding-international-alumnus/
Agronomy Club News

Do You Need Some Help with That?

If you have home or farm improvements and need a little help; members of the Texas A&M Agronomy Society can help you out. They are launching a new program in which students will do service projects upon request throughout the year. They are not charging for their labor but will take donations for the club. To arrange the service, contact Brandon Gerrish at branman80@tamu.edu.

Aggies Participate in Crops Judging

Four agronomy undergraduate students recently competed in the North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture (NACTA) crops judging contested hosted by Texas Tech University. Texas A&M University was represented by students Mattie Yanke, Cory Carpenter, Nick Wleczyk, and Shelby Redgate who were coached by Dr. Steve Hague. The contest involved the identification of crop and weed species, a lab practical, agronomy math, and an agronomy quiz. Plans are underway to field another team for next year’s competition hosted by Northwest Missouri State University.

Agronomy Students Help Farmers Fight

Several students from the Department of Soil and Crop Sciences recently participated in the annual Farmers Fight event. This event distributes information on the Texas A&M University campus about farming practices and impacts on our society. Students who served as advocates for agriculture include: Mattie Yanke, Jose Fuentes, Amee Bumguardner, Corie Mott, Brandon Gerrish, Russ Garetson, Cory Carpenter, Chris Dermody, Brent Tymrak, Madison Belcher, and Shelby Redgate.
Congratulations!

Texas A&M students recognized as Monsanto’s Beachell-Borlaug International Scholars

“Texas A&M is the only U.S. land grant university with five MBBI Scholars,” Runge said. “Kansas State and Cornell University each have four scholars. I am pleased that having five scholars is recognition of the quality of our professors and their students.”

Dr. David Baltensperger, Texas A&M soil and crop sciences department head, said, “We continue to see huge benefits from this program. This is a clear win for matching some of the best potential students in the world with some of the world’s leading researchers to help us prepare the next generation of leaders.”

“The judging panel is composed of seven world-famous scientists and an ex-officio non-voting member from Monsanto,” Runge said. “Scholar selection is due to their competitiveness. In the first five years, 64 scholars have been selected from 314 applications representing 25 countries.”

Monsanto established the prestigious, competitive fellowship to train scholars capable of becoming agricultural leaders by studying the most advanced breeding technologies available to address global challenges in rice and wheat production, he said. The company provided $10 million for the first five years and recently added $3 million for three more years.

“This is an outright gift from Monsanto and occurred because of discussions with Dr. Norman Borlaug that wheat and rice production was going up at a rate less than population growth,” Runge said. “The students sign a pledge that they will work in the public sector upon graduation, so Monsanto does not expect to hire the graduates from the program.”

Each recipient must focus on a critical genetic constraint affecting rice or wheat production, particularly in a developing country, and be paired with a university professor, he said. This year 65 applications were reviewed and 12 were selected for funding.

A&M Students present soils demonstrations with the Soil Science Society of America for the National Science Teachers Association Conference

Cody Bagnall (graduate student Department of Biological and Agricultural Engineering) and Dianna Bagnall (graduate student Department of Soil and Crop Sciences) traveled to San Antonio, Texas to present soils demonstrations with the Soil Science Society of America for the National Science Teachers Association Conference on April 11th. Cody and Dianna spoke about soil conservation, soil formation, careers related to soil science, and demonstrated the differences in aggregate stability among soils. The Bagnalls also answered questions, handed out materials, and lead actives at the SSSA booth during the conference. Above, Dianna explains soil structure to a group of science teachers.
**New cowpea varieties offer promise in South Africa...**

COLLEGE STATION – New cowpea varieties developed by Texas A&M University and tested at the Nature Conservation Trust Ukulima Farm in South Africa could make a major contribution toward production in other tropical and subtropical countries, according to one of the breeders.

Cowpea is a major food legume and a source of dietary protein for masses in Africa, Asia and South America, according to Dr. B.B. Singh, a visiting scholar and cowpea breeder with the Texas A&M soil and crop sciences department in College Station.

“The dry grains from cowpeas are used as a pulse (edible seed) and its young leaves, pods and green seeds are also used as a vegetable,” Singh said. “It is also a good source of nutritious fodder for livestock and the fallen cowpea residues and roots contribute to soil fertility.”

The varieties being tested at the Ukulima Farm, and also in College Station and Beeville, are varieties developed during the last five years from crosses involving the best cowpea lines from the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture and those from Texas A&M, he said. New cowpea varieties developed by Texas A&M University and tested at the Nature Conservation Trust Ukulima Farm in South Africa could make a major contribution toward production in other tropical and subtropical countries, according to one of the breeders.

We are saddened to report the death of Extension retiree R J Hodges, Jr. Mr. Hodges was a Project Leader & Agronomist with Soil & Crop Sciences, College Station Headquarters at the time of his retirement on August 31, 1980.

Mr. Hodges passed away on Wednesday, April 17, 2013.

Mr. John Box passed away on March 22, 2013. Mr. Box was an Associate Agronomist in College Station at the time of his retirement on August 31, 1977.

On The Mend

Dr. Dixon is now at home and doing well. We wish him the best and hope to see him in the seminar room soon.

Betty Priest had knee replacement surgery yesterday and will be in the hospital for a couple of days and then she will go home to recuperate. Our prayers are with you and we wish you the best for a speedy recovery Betty.

Lindra is at home recuperating from surgery for a broken ankle. She will be out for awhile and would appreciate you keeping her in your thoughts and prayers. If you need help with anything that Lindra has taken care of for you, see Kathy Seaton or Jim Lukeman.

Former Student

Billy Frank Higginbotham '50
DOD: 03/30/2013
Pecos, TX
AGRO
Jim McAfee’s Retirement Celebration

Drs. Baltensperger, Smith, and Miller graciously hosted a buffet lunch at Pebble Creek Country Club for all the administrative professionals in Soil and Crop Sciences and ESSM.

We enjoyed a lunch of chicken, fish, vegetables and an assortment of wonderful desserts. There were nine from ESSM and twenty two from Soil and Crop for a total of thirty three attendees.

Pictured are a few of the attendees.

Thank-you for lunch and time away from the office!
Jim and Nan Heilman are the proud grandparents of a new grandson.

Titus David Reichel was born on April 22, 2013. He weighed 3.884 kg and was 52.1 cm long. Parents are Warren and Julie Reichel who reside in Flower Mound, TX.

**New Faces**

**Dr. Clark Neely** – State Extension Small Grains and Oilseeds Specialist

We are very pleased to have Dr. Clark Neely join our faculty as the State Extension Small Grains and Oilseeds Specialist on April 1. Dr. Neely recently completed his Ph.D. degree in the Texas A&M University Department of Soil and Crop Sciences under Dr. Cristine Morgan, studying the effect of cool and warm season legumes in sorghum for biomass. Previously he completed his M.S. at the University of Idaho looking at the potential for harvesting forage on dual purpose biennial winter canola. His B.S. was completed at Penn State University. Dr. Neely entered the position following a devastating spring freeze which damaged much of the Texas wheat crop, and has spent many days on the roads of Texas conducting wheat freeze clinics and field days. We are excited to have him on board. His training and experiences will make him a very valuable addition to the department.

**Kathleen Seaton** joined the Department of Soil & Crop Sciences as an Business Coordinator II on January 22. Kathleen received her Associates Degree from Blinn College and has been working for Texas AgriLife Research for a total of 14 years. Kathleen comes to us from the Entomology Department where she was hired in 1999 as a student worker and ended in accounting as an Business Coordinator I before transferring to Soil and Crop in 2013. Kathleen has been married to her husband Bobby Seaton since 2002 they have two children, Hannah age 9 and Megan age 2. Kathleen and her family enjoy family outings of bowling, fishing, camping and softball. Kathleen is looking forward to her new career in the Department of Soil and Crop Sciences and is determined to help the Department to continue to succeed in any way she can.
FRANKLIN – The 27th annual O.D. Butler Field Day scheduled May 17 at Camp Cooley Ranch will feature the latest weed control technologies, plus strategies on buying and selling cattle during fluctuating market conditions.

The ranch is located at 4297 Camp Cooley Ranch Road in Franklin.

This year’s forage field day will be highlighted by demonstrations on the Boar Buster Corral by Jason Gaskamp of the Nobel Foundation, said Dustin Coufal, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service agent for Brazos County.

“We will also feature youpon control under trees by Dr. Barron Rector, AgriLife Extension range specialist, and controlling grass burrs by Dr. Paul Baumann, AgriLife Extension state weed specialist, both from College Station.”

Dr. Barron Rector, Texas AgriLife Extension Service range specialist, displays white prickly poppy as part of a walking tour at the 2012 O.D. Butler Memorial Forage Field Day at Camp Cooley Ranch. (Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service photo by Blair Fannin)

Registration is $25 and RSVP is requested by calling 979-823-0129. The fee includes lunch and materials. The program begins at 9 a.m.

The field day is conducted by the Brazos Area Hay Producers Association and the AgriLife Extension in Brazos, Burleson, Grimes, Limestone, Leon, Madison, Milam, Robertson and Washington counties.

“We think we have topics that are of interest to forage producers in the Brazos Valley,” Coufal said. “The presentations we have scheduled should give producers many things to consider and apply to their own operations.”

Three continuing education units will be awarded to licensed Texas Department of Agriculture private, commercial and non-commercial pesticide applicators.

The following is a schedule of topics and speakers:

- Latest technology in weed control, Dr. Larry Redmon, AgriLife Extension state forage specialist, College Station.
- Grass burr control demonstration, Baumann.
- Youpon control under trees, Rector.
- Soil and forage analysis update, Dr. Tony Provin, AgriLife Extension soil chemist, College Station.
- Where are we in the cattle cycle — is it time to buy or sell?, Dr. Jason Johnson, AgriLife Extension economist, Stephenville.
- Latest technology in trapping feral hogs, Josh Gaskamp, Nobel Foundation, wildlife division.

For more information, call 979-823-0129.

Writer: Blair Fannin, 979-845-2259, b-fannin@tamu.edu
Concur Updates - Receipt Requirements

To provide our travelers with more consistency, we are changing the receipt requirements to be consistent with the out of pocket or paid with a personal credit card requirements.

When we first went live with Concur, we thought we had to require receipts for all purchases made on the agency liability travel cards, including incidental expenses. We recently received confirmation that we didn’t. The receipt requirements only need to follow the normal state requirements. This change also better aligns with some of SRS’s travel policy which should make it easier for our travelers that travel on both agency and SRS funds. After carefully reviewing the State’s requirements, the attached are the new receipt requirements for Texas A&M University, Texas A&M University at Galveston, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, Texas A&M AgriLife Research and Texas A&M Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory.

The departments may continue to require more than we do, but AgriLife did not want to require more than the State required.

You should have received an email with the details attached. If you have any questions regarding travel or did not receive an email, you can contact Carol Rhodes or Nancy Harris in the main office.
Poster Winners

Eric Evans was awarded 1st Place Undergraduate Poster for Plant Sciences. His poster was titled “A Novel Strategy to Measure Cotton Boll Maturity”.

KUDOS!

Stacey Arteaga was awarded 2nd place for the Undergraduate poster presentation under Earth Sciences in Student Research Week. Her poster was titled “Aflatoxin Detoxification Method Combining Mesoamerican Nixtamalization and Clay Absorption Techniques”.

GREEN SECTION INTERN

Andrew Malis has been selected as an intern for the Green Section’s Mid-Continent Region. Andrew currently is a senior at Texas A&M University where he is studying turfgrass management under the guidance of Drs. Ben Wherley and Richard White.

Andrew’s interest in turfgrass management began in high school when he started working at Prestonwood Country Club in Plano, TX. He had always had an interest in the game of golf, so he decided to combine that with his love of turfgrass management and make them into a career. Andrew’s other work experiences include: interning at Royal Oaks Country Club in Dallas, TX, where he will return again this summer; and working for Texas A&M University Agrilife Extension as a research assistant focusing on drought tolerant cultivars.

Upon his graduation in December 2013, Andrew plans to continue his studies at Texas A&M University and work toward an M.S. degree in turfgrass management.
Thursday, April 11, the Department of Soil and Crop Sciences held their twentieth annual awards and recognition banquet at the Brazos Center. Scholarships were awarded to undergraduate students totaling $55,000 for the 2013-2014 school year. Five students were recognized as outstanding students: Freshman; **Amee Bumguardner**, Sophomore; **Zachary Strader**, Juniors; **Stacy Arteaga** and **Shelby Redgate**, and Senior; **Stetson Wheat**. Graduate students who received fellowship/assistantships for the 2012-2013 school year were also recognized.
SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS for 2013-2014

Stacy Arteaga
Dr. Cleveland & Frances Gerard Scholarship
Cecil & Ola Beasley Goodman Scholarship
McAfee Memorial Scholarship
Charles A. Schneider ’70 Memorial Scholarship
Texas Seed Trade Association Scholarship

Austin Blevins
Texas Seed Trade Association Scholarship
Trotter Endowed Scholarship

Chase Brister
Texas Turfgrass -
A.W. & Barbara Crain Scholarship
Jack Hulgan Memorial Scholarship

Mitchell Buckley
Texas Turfgrass -
A.W. & Barbara Crain Scholarship
Sequor Foundation/Milberger Turfgrass Endowed Scholarship

Amee Bumguardner
James Foster Scholarship
H. Jean Mills Memorial Scholarship

Cory Carpenter
J. Charlie & Judy Blue Scholarship
Ceres Scholarship
Billy, Gloria & Gerry Conrad Scholarship

Ana Sofia Corona Gaxiola
Kenneth & Marion Porter Endowed Scholarship
H. Jean Mills Memorial Scholarship

Ethan Diver
Kenneth & Marion Porter Endowed Scholarship
Texas Seed Trade Association Scholarship
Billie B. & Gloria S. Turner Production Scholarship

Trevor Dragon
Church Scholarship
J.F. Mills Endowed Scholarship
Trotter Endowed Scholarship
Allen & Joan Wiese Endowed Scholarship
Joseph E. Evans                    Joe S. Campise Memorial Scholarship
                         Morris G. Merkle Endowed Scholarship
Charles ’63 & Lynann ’66 Simpson Endowed Scholarship
Brandon Gerrish     Luther Jones Outstanding Junior Scholarship
                         Pat & Ed Runge Future Leaders Endowed Scholarship
                         Olin & Thelma Smith Endowed Scholarship
Andrew Malis                                Texas Turfgrass -
                         William E. “Bill” McLaughlin Scholarship
                         Texas Turfgrass Scholarship
                         Joseph D. Whitaker ’63 Scholarship
Shelby Redgate                                    Ceres Scholarship
                         Dick Holland Endowed Scholarship
                         Pat & Ed Runge Future Leaders Endowed Scholarship
                         Olin & Thelma Smith Endowed Scholarship
Zachary Strader                                  Texas Turfgrass -
                         William E. “Bill” McLaughlin Scholarship
                         Texas Turfgrass -
                         Paul Drummet Scholarship
                         Keith Ebanks Memorial Scholarship
Mattie Yanke                                      Billy, Gloria & Gerry Conrad Scholarship
                         Dick Holland Endowed Scholarship
                         Kenneth Lindsey Memorial Scholarship

FRESHMAN & TRANSFER SCHOLARSHIPS
for 2012-2013

Amee Bumguardner                  Pat and Ed Runge
                         Future Leaders Endowed Scholarship
Jeff Wong                                   Kenneth and Marion Porter Scholarship
Kevin Cloud                                  Texas Turfgrass Research,
                                                                 Extension and Education Endowment
SOIL and CROP SCIENCES UNDERGRADUATE
STUDENT AWARDS and RECOGNITION, 2012-2013

Stacy Arteaga – 2nd Place Poster Competition
(Earth Sciences in Student Research Week)

Alex Garcia – 8th Place Soils Competition
(Regional Collegiate Soils Competition)

Brandon Gerrish – Elected SASES Vice-President
(Students of Agronomy, Soils, and Environmental Sciences)

Jonathan Gross – 9th Place Soils Competition
(Regional Collegiate Soils Competition)

Phillip Steigerwald – 3rd Place Soils Competition
(Regional Collegiate Soils Competition)

Gregory Wilson – 1st Place Visual Presentation
(Students of Agronomy, Soils, and Environmental Sciences)
  6th Place Speech Contest
(Students of Agronomy, Soils, and Environmental Sciences)

Nick Wlecyzk – 3rd Place Visual Presentation
(Students of Agronomy, Soils, and Environmental Sciences)

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT OFFICERS
Agronomy Society
Brandon Gerrish – President
Blake Yount – Vice President
Shelby Redgate – Secretary
Jose Fuentes – Treasurer
Chris Dermody – Reporter
Russ Garetson – Merchandise Coordinator
Dr. Steve Hague – Faculty Advisor
Turf Club
Garrett Dishman – President
Landon Lindsay – Vice President
Stephen Gerhard – Secretary
Jacob Menn – Treasurer
Andrew Malis – Member Services
Drs. Ben Wherley & Richard White – Faculty Advisors

Undergraduate Dean’s Honor Roll

Spring 2012
Thomas Daly, Madeline Frazier, Ana Sofia Corona Gaxiola, Brandon Gerrish, Shelby Redgate, Stetson Wheat, Jeff Wong

Fall 2012
Ethan Diver, Christopher Haga, Jacob Menn, Timothy Pepper, Stetson Wheat, Jeff Wong

Undergraduate Distinguished Student List

Spring 2012
Christopher Haga

Fall 2012
Kevin Book, Brandon Gerrish

NOTE: Distinguished Student and Dean’s Honor Roll
An undergraduate student who completes a semester schedule of at least 15 hours with no grade lower than C and with a grade point average not less than 3.5 for the semester shall be designated “distinguished student”. A student who, under the same circumstances, achieves a grade point average of at least 3.75 shall also be designated as a member of the “dean’s honor roll”.
GRADUATE STUDENT FELLOWSHIP/ASSISTANTSHIP RECIPIENTS, 2012 - 2013

Dianna Bagnell Marsha and Murray Milford ’55 Graduate Endowment
TAMU Association of Former Students-
Graduate Merit Fellowship

Christina Barrera Graduate Diversity Fellowship

Francis Beecher Monsanto Graduate Assistantship in Plant Breeding

George “Trey” Cutts Monsanto Graduate Assistantship in Plant Breeding

Ivan Barrero Farfan Valdo Puskaric Pioneer Plant Breeding Fellowship

John Gill Monsanto Graduate Assistantship in Plant Breeding

Francisco Gomez NSF TAMU LSAMP Bridge to Doctorate

Reagan Hejl R. C. Potts Turfgrass Assistantship Endowment

Kari Hugie Cotton Inc. Fellow

Amanda Hulse Dudley T. ’79 and Angela R. Smith Travel Endowment

Rosa Jauregui Monsanto Graduate Assistantship in Plant Breeding

Trevor Jones Rice Belt Warehouse Graduate Assistantship

Mason Kearns R. C. Potts Turfgrass Assistantship Endowment

Adam Mahan Monsanto Graduate Assistantship in Plant Breeding
Laura Ann McLoud  
Cotton Inc. Fellow
Dudley T. ’79 and Angela R. Smith  
Travel Endowment

Meghyn Meeks  
Monsanto Graduate Assistantship in  
Plant Breeding

Haly Neely  
Graduate Diversity Fellowship

Eng-Hwa Ng  
Monsanto Graduate Assistantship in  
Plant Breeding

Reagan Noland  
Larry and Gladys Wilding Scholarship

Silvano Ocheya  
Borlaug International Scholars Program

Lauren Pitts  
NSF TAMU LSAMP Bridge to Doctorate

Bharath Reddy  
Monsanto Beachell-Borlaug International  
Scholars Program

Madahy Romero  
Hispanic Leadership

Julie Rothe  
Monsanto Graduate Assistantship in  
Plant Breeding

Jonathan Smith  
Scotts

Schuyler Smith  
Willie Mae Harris Fellowship

Joseph Storlien  
Dudley T. ’79 and Angela R. Smith  
Travel Endowment

Sean Thompson  
Monsanto Graduate Assistantship in  
Plant Breeding

Ana Barrientos Velázquez  
Tom Slick Fellowship
Joe B. and Martha Dixon Soil Mineralogy Scholarship
**Jason Ackerson** – 1\textsuperscript{st} Place Poster Competition  
(American Society of Agronomy)

**Dianna Bagnell** – Hank Beachell Future Leader Scholarship  
(American Society of Agronomy)  
Kirkham Soil Physics Travel Scholarship  
(Soil Science Society of America)  
National Student Recognition Award for Scholastic Achievements  
(Soil Science Society or America)

**Danielle Dittrich** – 2\textsuperscript{nd} Place Poster Competition  
(American Society of Agronomy)  
3\textsuperscript{rd} Place Poster Competition  
(Texas Plant Protection Conference)  
2\textsuperscript{nd} Place Poster Competition – Soils Division  
(American Society of Agronomy - Southern Branch)

**Tom Joniko** – Milling and Baking Division Dwyer Fellowship  
(American Association of Cereal Chemists International)  
Academic Excellence Scholarship  
(Association of Former Students)  
Division Leadership Travel grant  
(Institute of Food Technologists)  
African Endowed Scholarship  
(Texas A&M)  
International Education Fee Scholarship  
(Texas A&M)

**Elizabeth Marley** – 1\textsuperscript{st} Place Oral Presentation  
(Soil Survey and Land Recourses)

**Luke Morgan** – Travel Grant  
(The Clay Minerals Society)

**Haly Neely** – 1\textsuperscript{st} Place Poster Competition  
(American Society of Agronomy)
Reagan Noland – 1st Place Poster Competition – Crops Division
(American Society of Agronomy - Southern Branch)

Jennifer Peterson – ASA 2012 Education Materials Award
(American Society of Agronomy)

Julie Rothe – Gerald O. Mott Merit Graduate Student Award
(Crop Science Society of America)

Sean Thompson – 3rd Place Oral Presentation
(American Society of Agronomy)
2013 U.S. Borlaug Fellow in Global Food Security
(United States Agency for International Development)

GRADUATE STUDENT ASSOCIATION OFFICERS
Melissa Ganotis – President
Brian Pfeiffer – Vice President
Cristina Barrera – Secretary
Katie Lewis – Treasurer
Melissa Ganotis – GSC Delegate
SOIL & CROP SCIENCES FACULTY and STAFF AWARDS and RECOGNITION, 2012-2013

Archie Abrameit, David Drake, Dan Fromme, Gaylon Morgan and Dale Mott – Extension Supervisor Service Team Award

Youjun Deng – Honorable Mention, 4th place (Reynolds Cup Competition)

Jane Dever – Golden Hoe (Texas Organic Cotton Marketing Cooperative) Cotton Genetics Research Award (Joint Cotton Breeding Committee)

Sam Feagley – American Society of Agronomy Fellow (American Society of Agronomy)

Frank Hons – Superior Service Team Award (Texas A&M AgriLife Extension)

Travis Miller – Team Collaboration Award as part of the TAM Wheat Improvement Team (Vice Chancellor’s Award in Excellence)

Larry Redmon – ASA 2012 Education Materials Award (American Society of Agronomy)

Wayne Smith – American Society of Agronomy Fellow (American Society of Agronomy) Genetics and Plant Breeding Award (National Council of Commercial Plant Breeders)

David Zuberer – Agronomic Resident Education Award (American Society of Agronomy)
2012 SOIL and CROP SCIENCES DEPARTMENTAL AWARDS

Vickie Marriott – Administrative Support
Peter McGuill – Collaborating County Extension Agent
Peter Dotray - Extension
Wayne Smith - B.B. Singh Award for Research in Crop Sciences
Amir Ibrahim – Research
Srirama Krishnareddy – Research Collaboration
Kathy Carson –Research Support - Lab
Jason Baker –Research Support - Field
Linda Carpenter – Technical Staff Support – Lab
Leslie Wells – Technical Staff Support - Field
James Heilman – Teaching
Laura Ann McLoud – Graduate Teaching
Donn Cummings & Monsanto Team – Special Service Recognition
The Department of Soil and Crop Sciences would like to congratulate all scholarship and award winners, thank the donors who have made these scholarships possible, and thank all who support our department on a daily basis.